

# **PERRY COUNTY COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES OF BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING**

### **SEPTEMBER 11, 2014**

The Perry County Council met on the above date at 4:30 p.m. as was duly advertised for the public hearing on the 2015 proposed budgets. Council members in attendance were: President Stan Goffinet, Pro-tem Chet Mathena, Steve Goodson, Dianne Rudolph, Jim Adams, and Jody French. Absent from the meeting was Council Member Ron Crawford, Sr. A media representative from the Perry County News was also present.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING SPEAKERS**

Several elected officials, department heads, and representatives of other various agencies receiving county tax dollars were present. They spoke concerning their 2015 budget request in the following order:

#### **RECORDER**

Perry County Deputy Recorder Jane James explained that for 2015 only a few changes had been made to the Recorders budget, Enhanced Access Fund and Identification Security Protection Fund.

#### **VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER**

Wayne Hubert, Veterans Service Officer, explained that he now has to be certified by the State and has to take training each year to be fully certified. The State is also requiring all Veterans Service Offices to have a new computer and software that is approved by them. There should be a \$1,200 State grant to purchase the computer and software.

#### **TREASURER**

Judy Pund explained that she had not made many changes to the 2015 budget, but was asking that they not cut any funds from the line item Tax Statement Mailing Contract. She also stated that the Treasurer's budget has been cut every year since she took office.

#### **PERRY COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT**

Ken Smith with the Perry County Solid Waste District stated that the board had requested a 3% pay raise for all Solid Waste employees. Also, they had increases in the line items utilities and insurance.

#### **PERRY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Administrative Registrar, Donille James, and Health Nurse, Sara Gehlhausen explained that the overall Health Budget had increased for 2015. They are asking for a 2<sup>nd</sup> Health Nurse because they have been notified that the current Local Health Grant could be reduced by 3 to 5% in 2015. If this would happen they would only have one full time nurse for the health department, and this will mean a reduction in services. They also stated that the price of vaccines goes up each time they are ordered.

#### **RIDE SOLUTIONS**

Becky Guthrie, Director of Ride Solution, explained that they have partnered with SIRS and Perry County Council on Aging to provide services. They are also working with the local school corporations to provide transportation to students that take classes in other schools. They also provide transportation for doctor visits and taking people to work.

#### **PERRY COUNTY SOIL AND WATER**

Ronnie James, President of the Perry County Soil and Water District explained that their budget was the same as past years.

### **PERRY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Jeff Rogers President of the Perry County Chamber of Commerce explained that their main job is to promote Perry County. The last several years they have been working with the Indiana Hometown Competitiveness program in regard to Entrepreneurship, Leadership, Youth, Rural Families Economic Success and Charitable Wealth in Perry County. He stated that in the past they have received support from Perry County and hope that they will receive support again.

### **COUNTY EXTENSION**

Cathy Boerste, Extension Educator CED, explained a salary increase had been placed in the budget for the Secretary Salary to bring that salary in line with the salary of a second deputy. Also, they were asking for a Summer Assistant position to help in the summer with the 4-H Fair. She explained that in the past when this position was funded it was a local college student that was hired.

### **PERRY COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL**

Kay Scheer, President of the 4-H Council, explained that approximately 324 youth were involved in 4-H in 2014 which is 14% of the youths in Perry County. She stated that the youth are learning life skills along with doing community service.

### **PERRY COUNTY 4-H FAIRGROUNDS**

Jenny Kunkler, President of the 4-H Fairgrounds, explained that they not only host the Perry County 4-H Fair each year, but the fairgrounds are used by many other organizations along with schools, voting site and rental of the facilities. She explained that their next large project is the replacement of the barn roof.

### **PERRY COUNTY EMS**

EMS Director Pat Lambert and the CFO of Perry County Memorial Hospital attended the meeting and explained that the amount requested for Ambulance Service for 2015 was based on past years' expenses and revenue. The ambulance equipment request is for 2 Portable Ventilators and a side step for an ambulance. Pat stated that they will be requesting a new ambulance in 2015 and the estimated lease payment would be \$50,000 for 3 years. Council Member Stan Goffinet questioned how many ambulances they currently have. Pat stated that they currently have 4 ambulances.

### **CLERK**

Deputy Clerk, Mandi Mogan, explained that a 5% pay increase had been requested along with the addition of a part-time position. She explained that the part-time position was being asked for due to the increased work load of pulling files for the Circuit Court. She also asked that nothing be cut from the requested amounts in the supply category.

### **PROSECUTING ATTORNEY AND IV-D CHILD SUPPORT**

Prosecuting Attorney Rod Acchiardo explained that the budgets remained the same except for the salary increases that were asked for.

### **INDIANA 15 REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

Nathan Held with Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission explained that the per capita fee for Perry County did not increase for 2015 because it is based on the new 2010 census figures. The money is used as a match on federal grants for funding. One of things that IN 15 Regional Planning does is help local government officials seek grants. He reviewed several projects with council members that have taken place in Perry County.

**HIGHWAY, LOCAL ROAD AND STREET AND CUMULATIVE BRIDGE**

Steve Howell, Highway Superintendent, explained that the 2015 requested budget remained about the same as the 2014 budget. There were increases in the line items; signs, computer, gas & oil, liability & workers comp insurance. Steve explained that within the Cumulative Bridge Fund that the highway employees will be doing repairs to several bridges in 2015.

**CORONER**

Perry County Coroner, Charlie Baumeister, explained that his budget request for 2015 was not much different than the 2014 budget. He stated that he has 4 deputies and they are required to take 16 hours of training every two years. The Coroner’s Association pays for the training and hotel rooms. The county has to pay for meals and travel expenses. He also thinks that his phone bill will be increasing due to having to get internet service.

**PERRY COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER**

Joan Goble President of the Perry County Animal Shelter explained that on average it costs the shelter approximately \$140.00 to shelter a dog or cat. She stated that the number of cats and dogs released to the shelter since January of this year are staggering 516 animals. She stated that they are finding it extremely difficult to cover the rising costs for the animals.

**PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

Director Adam Temple explained that the 2015 budget request was not changed much from the 2014. He did increase the request for fuel due to moving grass at the Armory.

**PERRY COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING**

Jenni Albin with the Perry County Council on Aging discussed the many activities and services that they offer to the senior citizens of Perry County. She thanked the council for all the help they have given them in the past years.

**AIRPORT AUTHORITY**

Michael Elamam with the Airport Authority explained that they have two funds: the operations fund and the cumulative building fund. They are looking at new construction in 2015 within the building fund.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON BUDGETS**

There were no other comments on the 2015 budget requests.

**FIRST READING OF 2015 BUDGET REQUESTS**

President Stan Goffinet conducted the first reading of all 2015 departmental budget requests as follows:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Total Budget Request</u>
Clerk of Circuit Court	\$ 221,291
County Auditor	\$ 185,345
Treasurer	\$ 109,879
Recorder	\$ 98,116
County Sheriff	\$ 452,558
County Surveyor	\$ 6,450
County Coroner	\$ 30,129
County Assessor	\$ 129,667
Prosecuting Attorney	\$ 25,445
Extension Service	\$ 125,810

Veterans Service	\$ 27,367
County Council	\$ 45,040
Election Board	\$ 54,460
Commissioners	\$ 832,314
Animal Shelter	\$ 25,000
Planning & Zoning	\$ 18,310
Courthouse	\$ 131,832
Circuit Court	\$ 415,760
Emergency Management	\$ 149,291
Jail	\$ 454,547
4-D Child Support	\$ 137,287
Soil Conservation	\$ 28,967
Parks and Recreation	\$ 83,486
SIRS	\$ 45,000
County General Total	\$3,833,351
Health Department Fund	\$ 220,787
Cumulative Bridge Fund	\$ 512,266
Property Reassessment – 2015	\$ 99,090
Cumulative Capital Development	\$ 186,514
Clerks Record Perpetuation	\$ 11,650
Sales Disclosure-Co Share	\$ 2,200
Emergency Planning/Right to Know	\$ 3,667
Enhanced Access	\$ 4,000
Identification Security Program	\$ 2,655
Highway Administration	\$ 161,440
Highway Maintenance & Repair	\$ 752,861
Highway General & Undistributed	\$ 971,747
Park & Rec Non-Reverting Fund	\$ 2,000
Plat Book Fund	\$ 7,000
Riverboat – County Share	\$ 20,000
Sex & Violent Offender-Sheriff	\$ 1,211
Supplemental Public Defender	\$ 4,000
Corner Perpetuation – Surveyor	\$ 2,000
Co Election Official Training-Clerk	\$ 500
Co Election Official Training-Auditor	\$ 500
Co Election Official Training-Treasurer	\$ 500
Co Election Official Training-Recorder	\$ 500
Statewide 911	\$ 298,267
Supplemental Adult Probation	\$ 170,445
Jury Fee	\$ 3,000
Pretrial Diversion	\$ 97,242
Debt Service-Detention Center	\$ 874,000
Check Collection Fee	\$ 6,469
Surplus Surtax & Wheel Tax	\$ 350,000
Jail Operations	\$ 217,000
County Option Income Tax	\$ 816,457
Perry County Recycling Management	\$ 474,347
Airport Authority	\$ 44,100
Airport Authority – Cumulative Building	\$ 95,000

There being no further business, Jim made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jody seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0, with adjournment at 5:35 p.m.

Minutes approved this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2014.

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President, Perry County Council

*Minutes prepared by: Connie A. Berger, Perry County Auditor*

